



Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles

Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) Program

Purpose

The Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles (HACoLA) administers the following Housing Choice Voucher program for veterans::

- ◆ **Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) Program** – A program designed to provide rental assistance to homeless veterans and their families in conjunction with case management and clinical services through the Department of Veterans Affairs at Veterans Affairs Medical Center (VAMC) supportive service sites.

Funding Source(s)

Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) Program:

The Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009 (Public Law 111-8) enacted March 11, 2009, provided \$75 million dollars of funding for HUD-VASH vouchers. HACoLA has currently has an allocation of 505 VASH vouchers.

Program Overview

To more efficiently distribute vouchers to qualified homeless veterans and their families, HACoLA does not maintain a waiting list for the VASH program. HACoLA receives referrals directly from the Veterans Affairs Medical Center located in West Los Angeles.

Eligible applicants receive VASH vouchers to locate safe, sanitary and decent housing in the private market. Additionally, HACoLA has executed an inter-agency agreement with the Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles (HACLA), allowing HACoLA to administer its HUD VASH program within HACLA's jurisdiction and vice versa. This agreement provides homeless veterans with County VASH vouchers a wider area in which to seek suitable housing. by contracted Community Based Organizations (CBOs).

Program Eligibility Requirements

Eligible applicants/participants must meet or comply with all program rules/requirements Including, but not limited to the following:

- ◆ Applicants must be homeless
- ◆ Applicants must be low income
- ◆ Applicants age 18 years and older must undergo a criminal background check (VASH only checks for registered sex offenders)
- ◆ Applicants must be legal residents of the United States or eligible households must comprise of at least one legal resident of the United States for application to be considered
- ◆ Eligible participants must remain in compliance with all program rules and regulations

Community Partners

The following agencies currently partner with HACoLA:

- ◆ Veterans Affairs, Greater Los Angeles

Lois Starr (323) 890-7230
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Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles

Shelter Plus Care Program

Purpose

The Shelter Plus Care program (S+C) is authorized under title IV, subtitle F, of the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11403-11407b). The program is designed to connect permanent housing assistance with supportive services to hard-to-serve homeless persons with disabilities. The program strives to help eligible participants to live independently and obtain greater self determination.

Funding Source(s)

The S+C program is funded by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Under the Continuum of Care, the Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles (HACoLA) submits applications through the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) to HUD for new and renewal funding. Currently, HACoLA administers an allocation of 801. Over the past 5 years, HACoLA has received over \$20 million dollars in S+C funding.

Program Overview

Shelter Plus Care (S+C) provides housing assistance to persons who are homeless with disabilities – primarily those homeless persons with serious mental health illness and/or chronic substance abuse problems, and/or Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) and AIDS related diseases. Rental assistance is provided through four components:

- ◆ Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TRA) – Allows participant to select housing in the private market.
- ◆ Sponsor Based Rental Assistance (SRA) – Provides rental assistance through contracts between grantee and non-profit, private or community based organizations. Assistance is tied to the housing unit owned or leased by the organization.
- ◆ Project Based Rental Assistance (PRA) – Provides rental assistance to the owner of an existing structure who leases subsidized units to participants.
- ◆ Single Room Occupancy Dwellings (SRO) – Rental assistance is for 10

years in connection with the moderate rehabilitation of SRO housing units.

At present, HACoLA administers TRA, SRA and PRA projects.

Program Eligibility Requirements

Eligible applicants/participants must meet or comply with all program rules/requirements including:

- ◆ Applicants must meet the homeless definition under the McKinney Homeless Assistance Act
- ◆ Applicants must meet S+C program's disability requirement
- ◆ Applicants must be low income
- ◆ Applicants must be referred by a HACoLA contracted agency
- ◆ Eligible participants must remain in HACoLA's jurisdiction as this program is not portable
- ◆ Eligible participants must remain in compliance with prescribed supportive services to continue receiving housing assistance through the S+C program

Community Partners

The following agencies currently partner with HACoLA to provide client referrals and client supportive services throughout Los Angeles County:

- ◆ A Community of Friends
- ◆ Antelope Valley Domestic Violence Council
- ◆ Asian Pacific Counseling and Treatment Center
- ◆ Dept. of Mental Health, Los Angeles County
- ◆ Mental Health of America
- ◆ New Directions, Inc.
- ◆ Pacific Clinics
- ◆ Southern California Alcohol and Drug Program
- ◆ South Central Health and Rehabilitation Program
- ◆ Tri-City Mental Health
- ◆ Homes for Life
- ◆ Homeless Health Care Los Angeles
- ◆ City of West Hollywood

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